WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for creating a copy of data in a system comprising a plurality of storage devices, a control unit operable to control said storage devices, at least one of a plurality of processing units operable to access said control unit, and a buffer memory operable to temporarily store data read from said storage devices within said control unit, said storage devices addressable as at least one of a plurality of logical volumes, including a first logical volume and a second logical volume, said method comprising:

specifying a relationship between at least two of said logical volumes, said relationship defined between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

creating a copy of data in said specified first logical volume into said second logical volume; said creating a copy further comprising:

copying data from said first logical volume to a first location in said buffer memory;

copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory;

copying said data from said second location in said buffer memory to said second logical volume;

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by said control unit substantially independently of said processing units.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory further comprises:

reading data from said first location in said buffer memory into a buffer location within an address change unit;

exchanging a logical address within said data from an address corresponding to said first logical volume to an address corresponding to said second logical volume; and

writing said data to said second location in said buffer memory.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising: if a write request is issued to said first logical volume after creating a copy has commenced,

creating a copy of data in said first logical volume to said secondary logical volume before said data in said primary volume is modified by said write request.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said relationship further comprises: a pairing of a primary volume and a secondary volume.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising: modifying a location identifier defined in each logical volume.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising: making said second logical volume accessible after said creating a copy of data in said specified first logical volume into said second logical volume.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising: tracking modified data, if a write request is issued to said first logical volume or said second logical volume after the copy processing is completed, and

copying said modified data based upon said tracking, if creating a copy is directed again to the pair in copy completed status.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising: deleting said relationship.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said first logical volume is defined as a primary logical volume, said method further comprising:

defining at least one of a plurality of different logical volumes as secondary logical volumes; and

defining multiple pairs comprising said primary logical volume and one of said plurality of second logical volumes.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein data in said secondary logical volumes comprises a series of historical records of said primary volume, said historical records obtained by switching said secondary logical volumes one after another.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising: displaying information about said first logical volume and said second logical volume.

12. A method for controlling the copying of information from a first logical volume to a second logical volume in a computer system, said method comprising:

specifying a relationship between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

creating a copy of data in said first logical volume into said second logical volume; said creating a copy further comprising:

copying data from said first logical volume to a first location into a buffer memory;

copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory;

copying said data from said second location in said buffer memory to said second logical volume;

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by a control unit substantially independently of a central processing unit.

13. A method for controlling the copying of information from a first logical volume to a second logical volume in a computer system, said method comprising:

specifying a relationship between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

copying data read from said first logical volume into a buffer memory located within a control unit and thereupon writing said data to said second logical volume; and

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by said control unit substantially independently of a central processing unit.

14. A computer system comprising a plurality of storage devices, a control unit operable to control said storage devices, at least one of a plurality of processing units operable to access said control unit, and a buffer memory operable to temporarily store data read from said storage devices within said control unit, said storage devices addressable as at least one of a plurality of logical volumes, including a first logical volume and a second logical volume, said control unit operatively disposed to:

establish a relationship between at least two of said logical volumes, said relationship defined between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

create a copy of data in said specified first logical volume into said second logical volume; said creating a copy further comprising:

copy data from said first logical volume to a first location in said buffer memory;

copy said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory;

copy said data from said second location in said buffer memory to said second logical volume;

wherein said copy said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by said control unit substantially independently of said processing units.

15. The computing system of claim 14 wherein said copy said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory further comprises:

reading data from said first location in said buffer memory into a buffer location within an address change unit;

exchanging a logical address within said data from an address corresponding to said first logical volume to an address corresponding to said second logical volume; and

writing said data to said second location in said buffer memory.

16. The computing system of claim 14 wherein said buffer further comprises 10 Gigabytes of storage.

17. The computing system of claim 14 wherein said plurality of storage devices further comprises a RAID.

18. The computing system of claim 14 further comprising a display, said display operable to depict information about said storage devices.

19. The computing system of claim 14, wherein said control unit further comprises a data recovery and reconstruct (DRR), said DRR operative to copy

said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory; and thereupon change a volume number associated with said data.

20. A computer program product for controlling the copying of information from a first logical volume to a second logical volume in a computer system, said computer program product comprising:

code for specifying a relationship between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

code for creating a copy of data in said first logical volume into said second logical volume; said code for creating a copy further comprising:

code for copying data from said first logical volume to a first location into a buffer memory;

code for copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory;

code for copying said data from said second location in said buffer memory to said second logical volume;

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by a control unit substantially independently of a central processing unit; and

a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

21. A computer program product for controlling the copying of information from a first logical volume to a second logical volume in a computer system, said computer program product comprising:

code for specifying a relationship between said first logical volume and said second logical volume;

code for copying data read from said first logical volume into a buffer memory located within a control unit and thereupon writing said data to said second logical volume; and

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by said control unit substantially independently of a central processing unit; and

a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

22. The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising:

code for displaying information about said first logical volume to a second logical volume.

23. A control unit for controlling the copying of information, said control unit operable in a computing system comprising at least one of a plurality of storage devices, said control unit operable to control said storage devices, at least one of a plurality of processing units operable to access said control unit, said storage devices addressable as at least one of a plurality of logical volumes, including a first logical volume and a second logical volume, said control unit comprising a buffer memory operable to temporarily store data read from said storage devices within said control unit, said control unit operatively disposed to:

copy data read from said first logical volume into a buffer memory located within said control unit;

copy said data from said buffer memory to a different location within said buffer memory, changing a volume identifier associated with said data, and thereupon writing said data to said second logical volume; and

wherein said copying said data from said first location in said buffer memory to a second location in said buffer memory is performed by said control unit substantially independently of a central processing unit.

24. A computer system comprising a plurality of storage devices, said storage devices addressable as at least one of a plurality of logical volumes, including a first logical volume and a second logical volume, at least one of a plurality of processing units, a cache memory operable to temporarily store data, and a control unit operable to store and retrieve data from said storage devices on behalf of said processing units;

wherein said control unit is further operable to copy data from a first logical volume to a second logical volume according to a relationship established between said first logical volume and said second logical volume; wherein said control unit copies said data from said first logical volume to a first location in said cache memory; whereupon a data recovery unit within said control unit is operable to create a copy of said data in said first location in said cache memory to a buffer location within said data recovery unit, and thereupon to copy said data from said buffer location within said data recovery unit into a second location in said cache memory; and thereupon to copy said data from said second location in said cache memory to said second logical volume;

wherein said data comprises a logical address section, said logical address section having a data content that is changed during said copying between said cache memory and said buffer memory.

25. A computer system comprising:

a first means for storing data;

a second means for storing data;

a cache means for temporarily storing data;

a data recovery and reconstruction means for creating a copy of data from said first means for storing data into said cache means, and thereupon to create a copy of said data in said cache means into said second means for storing data,

wherein said data comprises a logical address section, said logical address section having a data content that is changed by said data recovery and reconstruction means from a physical address corresponding to said first means for storing data to a physical address corresponding to said second means for storing data.